



CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION

Alabama Agriculture Counts!!



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Severe Drought Conditions Reported

Data tables reflect the week ending: **September 19, 2010**

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2009	5-Yr Avg.
	Percent			
Corn Harvested	83	71	33	63
Cotton Bolls Opening	81	73	33	66
Cotton Harvested	14	5	0	6
Peanuts Dug	15	5	1	10
Soybeans Setting Pods	93	89	94	98
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	55	45	33	55
N/A =Not Available				

CROP/LIVESTOCK CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc.
	Percent				
Corn	5	15	33	42	5
Cotton	8	28	38	25	1
Peanuts	9	14	54	22	1
Soybeans	8	26	44	21	1
Livestock	1	14	43	37	5
Pasture & Range	15	38	33	14	0

TOP SOIL MOISTURE

	Days Suitable	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
		Percent			
District 10	7.0	50	34	16	0
District 20	6.8	58	37	5	0
District 30	7.0	21	53	26	0
District 40	7.0	54	45	1	0
District 50	7.0	26	64	10	0
District 60	6.9	45	47	8	0
State: Current Week	6.9	45	44	11	0
State: Previous Week	6.7	32	50	18	0

EXTENSION/FSA COMMENTS:

General: Conditions across Alabama continued to go downhill as rainfall last week was limited. Severe drought conditions were reported in the southeastern region of the state based on several agricultural reports from extension personnel, according to the US Drought Monitor. Bobby Beasley, County Executive Director in Henry County stated the current crop conditions and livestock were suffering due to prolonged drought. Several counties in the southeast have not seen rain in at least six weeks. The Drought Monitor released September 14 portrayed the state to be 13.9 percent free from drought, 86.1 percent abnormally dry, 34.2 percent moderately dry, and 11.3 percent severely dry compared to 100 percent free from drought three months ago, and 100

percent free a year ago. Daytime highs ranged from 91 degrees in Cullman to 100 degrees in Montgomery and Headland. Overnight lows ranged from 50 degrees in Belle Mina and Hamilton to 67 degrees in Bay Minette and Headland. The highest amount of precipitation occurred in Bridgeport with 0.30 inches of rain over a period of 1 day.

Cotton/Corn/Peanuts/Soybeans: Rudy Yates, Regional Extension Agent for Marengo County commented that some good quality soybeans were doing well, however the later beans that were not able to receive adequate moisture were in poor condition. The beans were small, they were drying down, and overall quality was poor. Tim Malone, County Executive Director for Lauderdale County reported corn harvest nears completion. Cotton harvest began last week, with good yields reported. Cotton harvest should get in full swing this week because of dry weather, however, some farmers reported dusty conditions making harvesting more difficult. Harvest of early soybeans has begun with fair yields. Late soybeans were in bad shape with poor yields. Gregory Key, County Executive Director for St. Clair County noted that a few acres of soybeans were harvested. Some cotton acreage has been defoliated, with the expectation of harvest beginning in a few days. Karen McDonald, County Executive Director for Monroe County reported peanuts were under great stress. The lack of rain has caused producers to delay digging because the ground was too hard. Larry Forester, County Executive Director for Dale County added producers were in the process of digging peanuts. The dry weather has created a problem of difficulty in getting the crop out of the hard ground. Doyle Barnes, County Executive Director for Covington County noted the area needs rain in order to dig up peanuts and plant winter grazing.

Pasture/Hay/Livestock: Mr. Forester commented the county has not seen rainfall for several weeks. Grass was short due to drought therefore cattlemen were supplying extra feed and hay. Alex Brand, County Executive Director for Wilcox County stated cattle producers have been feeding hay for several weeks because of the short pastures. Jimmy Smitherman, Regional Extension Agent for Montgomery County commented the lack of rainfall and high temperatures has caused pastures and forage crops to wilt and dieback. Alfred Jackson, Extension Agent at Tuskegee University mentioned much of the Western Black belt has been in drought status for several weeks. Pastures and forage yields were low in most cases. Brenda Glover, Regional Extension Agent for Hale County noted cattle producers were either feeding hay, sending their cattle to the market, or straight to the feedlot due to the lack of rain. Pastures continue to dry up, and if this persists there may be a shortage of hay for the winter. Mr. Key also noted that yield losses were due to the lack of moisture, excessive heat, and mostly armyworm damage. Pastures were in critical need of rainfall.

ALABAMA'S Weekly Crop Weather for the Period: Monday September 13, 2010 To Sunday September 19, 2010

Weather Station	Air Temperatures				Precipitation			Precipitation since Jan 1			Avg. 4"	GDD Base 50		GDD Base 60	
	High	Low	Avg	DFN	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	% Normal	Soil Temp	Total	DFN	Total	DFN
District 10 Northwest Alabama - Tennessee Valley 46% of Corn Ac., 45% of Soybean Ac.															
Muscle Shoals	96	52	77	5	0.00	-0.98	0	30.16	-8.72	78		192	32	122	33
Russellville	94	52	74	4	0.00	-1.05	0	27.56	-13.48	67		177	33	107	33
Belle Mina	96	50	75	4	0.01	-0.87	1	31.18	-8.82	78	80	186	34	116	34
Huntsville Ag	95	54	78	6	0.03	-0.95	1	30.62	-11.12	73		198	42	128	43
Hamilton	98	50	75	4	0.00	-1.12	0	43.97	0.21	100		186	34	116	35
District 20 Northeast Alabama - Appalachian Foothills 18% of Corn Ac., 21% of Soybean Ac.															
Anniston AP	98	56	79	6	0.00	-0.84	0	31.70	-8.70	78		202	36	132	37
Cullman Ag	91	54	73	2	0.00	-1.26	0	44.90	1.36	103	78	169	20	99	19
Sand Mountain	92	53	75	6	0.00	-1.12	0	29.56	-11.57	72	78	182	40	112	39
Gadsden_AP	95	54	76	4	0.00	-0.84	0	27.30	-14.28	66		182	23	112	25
Bridgeport	93	52	74	4	0.30	-0.73	1	37.32	-6.28	86		174	31	104	31
Guntersville	94	60	77	4	0.25	-0.80	1	38.74	-0.89	98		193	29	123	29
District 30 North Central Alabama - 7% of Corn Ac., 7% of Soybean Ac.															
Thorsby	99	60	81	8	0.00	-0.96	0	33.16	-9.47	78	81	220	56	150	56
Talladega	97	53	77	5	0.00	-0.98	0	36.43	-6.14	86		194	35	124	36
Birmingham_AP	97	57	81	8	0.03	-0.95	1	37.50	-3.47	92		216	51	146	51
Alabaster	95	62	80	7	0.22	-0.72	1	39.41	-4.19	90		212	46	142	47
Pinson	96	53	78	7	0.00	-1.04	0	40.46	-1.96	95		196	44	126	45
Opelika_Wtr_Plt	95	59	78	5	0.00	-0.95	0	36.23	-7.32	83		197	31	127	32
Alexander_City	97	58	78	5	0.00	-0.93	0	31.97	-11.43	74		200	36	130	37
Tuscaloosa_AP	99	55	80	6	0.00	-0.77	0	32.72	-8.74	79		213	36	143	36
Jasper	95	54	76	4	0.00	-0.95	0	48.00	5.30	112		187	34	117	35
District 40 South Central Alabama - Black Belt 7% of Corn Ac., 9% of Soybean Ac.															
Union Springs	98	58	80	5	0.00	-0.91	0	26.90	-15.23	64		216	38	146	39
Marion Junction	98	60	80	6	0.00	-0.84	0	31.07	-9.64	76	87	213	43	143	43
Montgomery_AP	100	61	82	6	0.02	-0.99	1	29.18	-11.14	72		226	38	156	38
Livingston	97	58	79	5	0.04	-0.73	1	44.08	1.84	104		201	29	131	30
District 50 SW Alabama - Coastal Plain 7% of Corn Ac., 10% of Soybean Ac.															
Bay Minette	95	67	82	5	0.00	-1.30	0	49.40	-2.06	96		225	33	155	33
Brewton_AG	97	64	81	6	0.00	-1.05	0	45.52	-4.51	91	94	217	39	147	39
Thomasville	99	59	82	7	0.00	-0.89	0	33.72	-10.31	77		225	46	155	46
Mobile_Bates	95	65	81	4	0.00	-1.42	0	46.61	-3.15	94		220	24	150	23
District 60 SE Alabama - Wiregrass 15% of Corn Ac., 8% of Soybean Ac.															
Eufaula_Wildlife	97	63	80	5	0.00	-0.83	0	45.78	6.26	116		212	33	142	33
Troy_Municipal	97	57	80	4	0.00	-0.83	0	34.54	-5.74	86		209	28	139	28
Highland Home	97	62	80	6	0.04	-0.93	1	37.67	-5.32	88		219	41	149	41
Geneva_Ag	97	60	79	3	0.00	-0.95	0	37.25	-7.21	84	95	209	20	139	20
Headland	100	67	83	8	0.00	-0.86	0	32.12	-11.44	74	91	237	54	167	54
Dothan	98	65	82	6	0.00	-0.91	0	36.23	-6.16	85		223	40	153	40

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Air and Soil Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. PCT of Norm: Cumulative Rainfall since January 1 as a percent of normal (using 1961-90 normals period), 2008. Weather data prepared By AWIS, Inc. For more weather information visit www.awis.com or call 1-888-798-9955.

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